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Docket No. 1842-0018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re patent application of : |) | |
| Johnson et al. |) | Examiner: To be assigned |
| |) | |
| Serial No. 10/624,066 |) | |
| |) | |
| Filed: July 21, 2003 |) | Group Art Unit: 3732 |
| |) | |
| Title: Tissue Distractions Device |) | |

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicant respectfully requests that the U.S. Patent Office inform the undersigned as to the status of the above-captioned patent application. No substantive action from the PTO has been received concerning the present application since a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated August 4, 2004. Applicant has since filed a Response to Non-Compliant Amendment on August 20, 2004 and a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on October 7, 2004.

The PAIR system indicates that the case has been docketed to an Examiner in GAU. Applicant requests information as to the status of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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